

# REPORT

**DATE:** 3/18/08

**TO:** Regional Council

**FROM:** Mannik Sakayan, Legislative Analyst, (213) 236-1883  
Jeff Dunn, Legislative Analyst, (213) 236-1880

**SUBJECT:** South Coast Air Quality Management District Air Pollution Fee (SB1646)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:**



## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Support the bill.

## BACKGROUND:

On February 22, 2008, Senator Alex Padilla (D-Van Nuys) introduced SB 1646 to extend indefinitely the South Coast Air Quality Management District's authority to impose a \$1 fee on vehicle registration renewals to fund clean fuel programs. Without SB 1646, the program is set to expire on January 1, 2010.

The Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing is scheduled to hold a hearing on the bill on April 1, 2008.

The South Coast AQMD's Clean Fuels Program has generated over \$10 million annually to identify and support clean fuels technologies related to transportation and stationary sources of air pollution. Since 1988, AQMD has leveraged \$140 million in Clean Fuels funds to obtain \$448 million in matching funds from private sector and other partners to fund clean fuels projects valued at more than \$588 million.

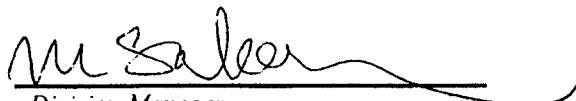
While some progress has been made, the region continues to experience the worst air quality in the United States, with Southern Californians increasingly exposed to harmful air pollutants. The current Air Quality Management Plan calls for further reductions and new technologies in order for California to meet the 2014 national air quality standards. New clean, advanced, energy efficient and renewable technologies are needed to reach attainment of those standards. The Clean Fuels Program provides the mechanism to accomplish these reductions. Reauthorization is essential to ensure a steady source of funding for the program.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

All work related to this item is contained within the adopted FY 07/08 budget, WBS# 08-810.SCGS1.

# REPORT

Reviewed by:

  
Division Manager

Reviewed by:

  
Department Director

Reviewed by:

  
Chief Financial Officer